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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/009,932	01/21/1998	KOICHIRO TANAKA	35G2116	8061

5514 7590 09/20/2002

FITZPATRICK CELLA HARPER & SCINTO  
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA  
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER
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VU, NGOC YEN T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2612

DATE MAILED: 09/20/2002

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/009,932

Applicant(s)

Koichiro TANAKA et al.

Examiner

Ngoc-Yen VU

Art Unit

2612

– The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address –

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Aug 26, 2002
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 35 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-70 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10, 13-16, 18-27, 30-33, 35-46, 49-52, 54-63, and 66-69 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 12, 17, 28, 29, 34, 47, 48, 53, 64, 65, and 70 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirements.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 2612

***Response to Arguments***

1. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

However, the Applicant's amendment, filed on 03/01/2002, necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

3. Claims 1-4, 18-21, 35-40 and 54-57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cho (US #5,523,783) in view of Cho (US #5,396,287).

Regarding claims 1-4, Cho '783 teaches a camera control system comprising a display device (monitor TV 11) that displays an image sensed by a camera (1), in accordance with an image signal output from the camera (Figs. 1 & 3; col. 2 lines 4+); a detection device that detects a figure scripted on a display screen on which the image is being displayed by said display device (Fig. 1, light pen/input means 13 and circuits 12-16); a selection device (Fig. 3, CPU 20) that selects a type of command for controlling the camera in accordance with a figure pattern which corresponds to the figure detected by said detection device and an output device (Fig. 1, drive control circuits 6-8; Fig. 3, circuits 23-26) that outputs the command for controlling the camera

Art Unit: 2612

selected by said selection device (col. 1 line 54 - col. 5 line 67); and a control device (Figs. 1 & 3, pan head 4) that controls the camera on the basis of the camera control command output from said output device (col. 1 line 54 - col. 5 line 67). Claims 1-4 differ from Cho '783 in that the claims require the selection device collates a pattern of the figure detected by said detection device with figure patterns previously stored in a storage device.

However, the limitation is well known in the art as shown in Cho '287. In the same field of endeavor, in figures 5-8, Cho '287 teaches a method and system for camera work control apparatus including a display (monitor 11) having a plurality of inputting portions (12), wherein each portion (12) corresponds to parameters representing panning, tilting, zooming and focusing information stored in RAM 20 (col. 5 line 56 - col. 6 line 61). Cho '287 also teaches a parameter calculator (19) that can calculate the operation parameters for the entire region from any two or four points set in any direction on the monitor 11 (col. 6 line 62 - col. 8 line 10). Cho '287 further teaches that the parameters calculated by the parameter calculator (19) are also stored in RAM 20 (col. 7 line 1 - col. 8 line 10). In light of the teaching from Cho '287, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the camera control system taught in Cho '783 by allowing the CPU 20 to collate a pattern of the figure detected by said detection with figure patterns previously stored in a storage device, thus providing a simple and rapid way of setting the panning, tilting, zooming or focusing parameters for the camera.

Regarding claims 18-21, the subject matter in these claims can be found in claims 1-4.

Art Unit: 2612

Regarding claims **35-40** and **54-57**, they are method claims corresponding to claims 18-21 in which the subject matter can be found in claims 1-4. It is noted that the Cho references teach that the camera control system includes a computer which can be download programs stored in respective recording medium.

4. Claims 9-10, 13-16, 26-27, 30-33, 45-46, 49-52, 62-63 and 66-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cho '783 in view of Cho '287, as applied to claims 1, 18, 35 and 54 above, and further in view of Cortjens et al. (US #5,568,183).

As to claims **9-10**, the claims differ from the Cho references in that the claims require if said detection device detects an arrow is scripted on the display screen, then said output device outputs a control command for control of at least one of pan and tilt of the camera according to the direction of the detected arrow, wherein said output means determines a controlled amount of at least one of the pan and tilt of the camera according to a length of the detected arrow.

However, it is well known in the art to include a graphical user interface for configuration and control of a camera using scripted arrows on the display screen, as taught in Cortjens (col. 14 line 55 - col. 16 line 56). In light of the teaching from Cortjens, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the camera control system taught in the Cho references by controlling the camera(s) using a graphical user interface having scripted arrows.

As to claims **13-14**, Cortjens teaches that if said detection device detects a substantially rectangular figure is scripted on the display screen, then said output device outputs a command

Art Unit: 2612

for controlling a zoom ratio according to a size of the substantially rectangular figure detected, wherein if said detection device detects a substantially rectangular figure is scripted on the display screen, then said output device further outputs a control command for performing at least one of pan and tilt of the camera such that an image displayed at a center of the substantially rectangular figure is positioned at a center of the display surface (col. 16 line 57 - col. 18 line 47).

As to claims **15-16**, Cortjens teaches that if said detection device detects a crisscross figure is scripted on the display screen, then said output device outputs a command for controlling a zoom ratio in the zoom-out direction according to a size of the crisscross figure detected, wherein said output means outputs a control command for performing at least one of pan and tilt of the camera such that an image displayed at a point of intersection of the two segments forming the crisscross figure is positioned at the center of the display surface (col. 16 line 57 - col. 18 line 47).

As to claims **26-27**, the subject limitation in these claims can be found in claims 9-10, respectively.

As to claims **30-31**, the subject limitation in these claims can be found in claims 13-14, respectively.

As to claims **32-33**, the subject limitation in these claims can be found in claims 15-16, respectively.

Art Unit: 2612

Regarding claims **45-46**, they are method claims of the apparatus claims 26-27, respectively. Therefore, they are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to the apparatus claims 26-27.

Regarding claims **49-52**, they are method claims of the apparatus claims 30-33, respectively. Therefore, they are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to the apparatus claims 30-33.

Regarding claims **62-63**, they are method claims of the apparatus claims 26-27, respectively. Therefore, they are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to the apparatus claims 26-27.

Regarding claims **66-69**, they are method claims of the apparatus claims 30-33, respectively. Therefore, they are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to the apparatus claims 30-33. It is noted that the Cho references teach that the camera control system is a computer which can download programs stored in respective recording medium.

5. Claims 5-8, 22-25, 41-44, and 58-61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cho '783 in view of Cho '287, as applied to claims 1, 18, 35 and 54 above, and further in view of Kawai et al. (JP # 4-302587).

As to claims **5-8**, Cortjens teaches that if an action of depicting a segment from right to left, from left to right, from bottom to top or from top to bottom on the display surface of said display means, then the output means outputs a command for leftward pan, rightward pan,

Art Unit: 2612

upward tilt or downward tilt control, respectively of the camera (col. 14, line 55 - col. 16 line 56). However, claims 5-8 differ from the Cho references and Cortjens in that the claims further require that these pan and tilt commands are output from the output means according to the length of the segment. The limitation is well known in the art as shown in Kawai. In the same field of endeavor, Kawai '587 teaches a video camera control system for controlling a video camera (4) (see Fig. 1) wherein the commands for controlling the camera are input via a mouse 9 on a window 7 of a screen 6 (see the translated copy of Kawai on pages 2-4). In figures 4-5, Kawai further teaches that the window has segments from A to I, wherein the pan and tilt commands for controlling the camera 4 are outputted according to the length of these segments (see pages 5-7). In light of the teaching from Kawai, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the camera control system taught in the Cho references and Cortjens by outputting upward and downward pan/tilt commands according to the length of the segment so as allow the user to specifically designate the pan and tilt amounts using a mouse on a display device.

As to claims **22-25**, the subject limitation in these claims can be found in claims 5-8, respectively.

Regarding claims **41-44**, they are method claims of the apparatus claims 22-25, respectively. Therefore, they are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to the apparatus claims 22-25.

Regarding claims **58-61**, they are method claims of the apparatus claims 22-25, respectively. Therefore, they are analyzed and rejected as previously discussed with respect to the



Art Unit: 2612

apparatus claims 22-25. It is noted that the Cho references teach that the camera control system is a computer which can download programs stored in respective recording medium.

*Allowable Subject Matter*

6. Claims 11-12, 17, 28-29, 34, 47-48, 53, 64-65 and 70 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

*Conclusion*

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2612

8. **Any response to this office action should be mailed to:**

**Box AF**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

**or faxed to:**

(703) 872-9314, (for formal communications intended for entry)

(for informal or draft communications, please label

"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington. VA.,

Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Ngoc-Yen Vu** whose telephone number is (703) 305-4946. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri from 8 am to 4:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Wendy Garber**, can be reached on (703) 305-4929.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the customer service office whose telephone number is (703) 306-0377.

NYV  
09/17/2002

  
NGOC-YEN VU  
PRIMARY EXAMINER